

31st Fighter Wing: The U.S. Air Force's fighter wing south of the Alps.

THE VIGILEER

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Aviano Air Base, Italy

Fly Bys

Office closure

The 31st Comptroller Squadron closes 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Wednesday for an official function. For emergencies, call 335-560-1241.

Thrift Shop

The Aviano Thrift Shop is open 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday. The shop is located in Area One, behind the Chapel Education Center and the Aviano High School football field.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Lt. Col. Naomi Lawless, 31st Medical Group, for her selection for promotion to colonel recently.

Safety

Aviano drivers are reminded to use caution when driving in rain or fog. With the low temperatures, the rain can freeze, causing slick roads. Also, Airmen are reminded they must wear reflective belts during inclement weather and hours of darkness.

By Senior Airman
Mike Meares

96th Air Base Wing Public Affairs,
Eglin Air Force Base, Fla.

Members of Aviano's 555th Fighter Squadron and Eglin Air Force Base's 86th Fighter Weapon Squadron cheered as they watched via video pilots drop weapons on targets in a Florida test range last week.

The 555th FS went to Eglin for Exercise Combat Hammer, an exercise to build, load and employ laser guided weapons and Joint Direct Attack Munitions.

The "Triple Nickel," brought 16 aircraft to employ precision munitions in a tactical environment while the 86th FWS evaluated their performance and the performance of the munitions.

"We want to make sure the weapons do what they are designed to do," said 2nd Lt. Mitchell Gillespie, 86th FWS weapons and tactics analyst.

This is the first time evaluators of Combat Hammer took a look at the GBU-38, a JDAM used for the first time in October 2004 over Iraq.

The first mission was conducted by two F-16C Falcons,



Senior Airman Mike Meares

Staff Sgt. Andrea Smith, 31st Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, loads a weapon onto the wing of 55th Fighter Squadron F-16 during an exercise at Eglin Air Force Base, Florida.

which successfully dropped two GBU-38s on a target in central Iraq. Each aircraft released one GBU-38 on the target-building where a terrorist meeting was happening.

For the training mission, Maj. James Lee, 555th FS, dropped the weapon from 35,000 feet at a speed of Mach 1.2 on a barge in the Gulf of Mexico.

It was a direct hit.

"GPS weapons are pretty amazing weapons. They are a significant increase in capability for us," Major Lee said. "It gives us a lot of confidence to see these weapons employ as advertised."

The JDAM is a low-cost guidance kit that converts existing unguided free-fall bombs into accurately guided "smart" weapons. The JDAM kit consists of a new tail section that contains an Inertial Navigation System and Global Positioning System. A JDAM is an all-weather weapon that can be released day or night. JDAMS were used in combat for the first time during operation Allied Force in 1999.

"There is very little data on this weapon," Major Lee said.

— See EGLIN, Page 7

Today in history: Two B-52 Stratofortresses land in Russia March 4, 1992, the first bombers to do so since World War II.



In command

Brig. Gen. Phil Breedlove talks about 50 years of American-Italian friendship and food service for Airmen living in the dorms.

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Deployments

The Air Force is extending about 200 deployed positions into year-long assignments, in order to provide better continuity.

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Hoffman helps

Guided by their teacher, Aviano High School students learn to think globally and act locally by providing community service in the area.

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31st Fighter Wing **Commander's Connection** Community history and dormitory meals **50 years at Aviano**

We recently celebrated the 50th anniversary of the activation of "Aviano Airfield No. 1" by U.S. Air Forces in Europe. This marked the official beginning of the U.S. Air Force presence at Aviano.

From 1955 to 1994, Aviano was a small rotational alert base. There were no aircraft permanently stationed here and a much smaller American footprint.

Things have changed since then. Aviano is now a vibrant NATO base and home to the US Air Force's largest presence south of the Alps.

The base has also changed physically, from a sleepy hollow to one of the finest and most complete installations used by the U.S. military. And with the construction projects nearing completion, it will only get better.

One thing that hasn't changed though is our friendship and cooperation with our Italian hosts. Over the last 50 years, Aviano has become a symbol of cooperation between the United States and Italy.

As close allies, we have made tremendous strides together bringing peace, freedom and security to Europe and elsewhere in the world. We won the Cold War. We supported NATO operations that have led from civil war to peace throughout the Balkans. Now we are working together to bring freedom to Iraq and Afghanistan and to win the Global War on terror.

Our Italian civilian employees were, and still are, important players in this. At the commemoration ceremony, we had three Italians in attendance who had worked at the base for a combined 115 years. The Italian employees at Aviano make a huge impact in accomplishing the mission each day and this is something we need to recognize and remember.

From the beginning we've also had outstanding relations with the leaders and residents of the surrounding communities. Municipalities welcomed the first Airmen and their families with open arms as they still do today. We

share their neighborhoods, towns, parks and lives. I know when I leave here, I will not forget the bonds of friendship I've developed with many of my Italian neighbors and associates. I believe this is also true for many of you.

Today's Global War on Terrorism ensures Aviano Air Base will retain an important role in the future. But it's the interaction with our Italian friends that will ensure that role. Though we've accomplished many missions from here, we couldn't have done it without the support of Aviano's community. Let's continue to recognize what makes our partnership here so special.

Meals for dormitories

Q: I'm writing to find out how dorm residents can start up mealtime bus service again. The dining facility in Area Two is closed on weekends and holidays, leaving Airmen without cars unable to get to the flightline dining facility unless they can find a ride. I was told the bus was canceled because nobody used it. However, no schedules were ever posted. Aside from e-mail and the *Vigileer*, signs could have been posted in the dining facilities and bus stops. If a bus service is not an option, perhaps the Buon Appetito can be opened for carry-out on the weekends, or only have the quick-service line running for carry-out.

A: Thank you for your concerns and suggestions. As you mentioned, our vehicle operations team tried on several occasions to offer weekend shuttles. Each time, we had to discontinue the service because of limited use. Our 31st Services Squadron team has been leaning forward and came up with a plan to offer the dorm residents in Area Two meals on the weekends. Beginning Saturday, the Buon Appetito is tentatively scheduled to offer breakfast from **7:30 to 9 a.m.**, lunch from **11 a.m. to 1 p.m.** and dinner from **4 to 5:30 p.m.** on weekends, holidays and down-days. Call Ext. 5852 for more information. Hats off to our services team for making this happen with no additional manpower. Thanks again for your comments!



This is your direct link to let me know your comments or unresolved complaints. I will personally see each question is answered. Comments can be submitted by:

- E-mailing
cc.connect@aviano.af.mil
- faxing to Ext. 7083
- mailing a letter to
31FW/PA, Unit 6140
Box 100, APO AE
09604-0100

- Delivering to
public affairs, Bldg.
1360, Room 19.

You may remain anonymous upon request. However, to receive a reply, include your name, unit and phone number.

The Commander's Connection is not intended to replace the chain of command, so first talk with managers, supervisors or first sergeants.

Extended deployments affect only 200 Airmen

Air Force officials are designating some positions in U.S. Central Command's area of responsibility as 365-day extended deployments in an effort to provide stability and allow for long-term relationship building with host governments.

The new tour lengths will affect only about 200 key and critical operational and joint task force staff positions, officials said. People in the remaining positions will serve in the current air and space expeditionary force structure.

Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper directed the extended tours in response to requests from joint task force commanders seeking continuity in selected positions, often where the local culture requires more time to establish meaningful ties with local people and host governments.

These key positions are an integral part of a combatant commander's mission and the AEF structure. No new positions will be created; they will be converted from current AEF slots.

"The positions will span a wide spectrum of Air Force career fields," said Lt. Col. James Davis, Air Force assignment classification, retirements and separation policy chief. "There will be a good mix of enlisted and officer

positions, mid-level and up."

Air Force Personnel Center officials will take the lead in finding people to fill most of the slots. Air Force Senior Leader Management Office officials will handle requirements for colonel and chief master sergeant positions, he said.

Colonel Davis said selections would be made during the course of the upcoming spring and summer assignment cycles with all being in place by August 2005.

Volunteers will be sought first, he said. If there are not enough volunteers, AFPC officials will use modified short-tour criteria to fill the slots. For colonels, AFSLMO officials will assign them through major command channels.

Although these deployments may appear to be remote tours, they are not permanent change-of-station moves. It is not a goal to establish a permanent U.S. military presence in the region, and there is no Status of Forces Agreement in place covering permanent assignments, officials said. The positions will fall under the category of "indeterminate length" temporary duty assignments. That category will allow for certain entitlements to apply that are not available for standard temporary assignments.

"Although we can't consider them regular short-tour assignments, they will be treated



File photo by Staff Sgt. Derrick C. Goode

Some Airmen will soon be given year-long deployments in support of Air Expeditionary Force rotations.

as such," Colonel Davis said. "Lieutenant colonels and below who complete the tours will have priority for follow-on assignments, just like any other one-year tour." Colonels completing the tours will be assigned according to normal colonel assignment procedures.

Family members also may be eligible for standard short-tour benefits. Storage of household goods is one benefit offered to Airmen serving temporary assignments of 180 days or longer. There are possible options for moving the Airman's family while deployed; the availability and extent of those options will be determined case-by-case.

Airmen may also have the option of returning to their former assignment, if there is a suitable vacancy, officials said.

There will be career benefits

for Airmen serving these extended temporary assignments. Airmen serving the 365-day TDYs will receive short-tour credit and be exempt from AEF or other contingency deployments for six months following their return home. Most of the joint task force positions will earn joint-duty credit depending on actual length of rotation, officials said.

"Our expectation is that all of the joint task force positions will get full joint credit," Colonel Davis said. "We are currently validating the positions working this with the Joint Staff and (secretary of defense). Although we're asking some of our Airmen to deploy for a longer period of time to meet mission needs, we're constantly looking for the best options for our (Airmen) and their families." (Air Force News Service)

Flu season: It's still the season and active duty members must get their flu shot by visiting the Immunizations Clinic in Area One.

Medical group kicks off patient safety awareness week

Patient Safety Awareness Week is a national education and awareness-building campaign for improving patient safety at the local level.

Hospitals and health care organizations across the country are planning events to promote patient safety within their own organization.

The 31st Medical Group will host activities to educate patients on how to become more involved in their own health care and become partners with their health care teams.

The events will also give patients the opportunity to provide feedback for the group to improve its service and patient safety.

The "Speak Up" program, sponsored by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of

Patient safety tips and events Patients should carry a list of current medications (prescription and over-the-counter), herbal remedies and dietary supplements. • It's a good idea to clean out medicine cabinets to get rid of old or expired medications. Old medicine can be brought to the Aviano Pharmacy for proper disposal. • Informational literature will be distributed **10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesday** at the Aviano Family Practice Clinic lobby. • Medical information and prizes will be given away **11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday** at the Aviano Base Exchange. • "Speak-Up" program representatives will visit the Sacile Hospital **Thursday 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.** • For more information about events or patient awareness information, call Suzanne Green at the 31st Medical Group Patient Safety Office at Ext. 5071.

Health care Organizations, urges patients to get involved in their care. This initiative provides simple advice on how patients can turn health care into a positive experience.

Research shows that patients who take part in decisions about their health care are more likely to have better outcomes. (31st Medical Group news release)

Bank of America loses credit card information

Hundreds of Aviano employees affected by situation

About 900,000 Defense Department employees may be affected by Bank of America's loss and the possible compromise of government travel card information, Pentagon officials said Feb. 25.

The General Services Administration and Bank of America notified DOD officials that "SmartPay" travel cards are affected. Officials said Bank of America has been monitoring the affected accounts, and there has been no evidence of fraud or misuse of the accounts.

Bank of America officials are sending letters to affected employees.

"Information regarding travel card program accounts for individual cardholders has been lost, and it is possible that information has been compromised, though we don't believe that is the case," said Teresa McKay, the Defense Department's deputy chief financial officer.

Secret Service agents are conducting the investigation, with help from the Defense Criminal Investigative Service. Officials said that although there has been no evidence of criminal activity, release of details on the circumstances of the loss could jeopardize the investigation.

"Indications right now are that it is an accidental event," Ms. McKay said. "The bank has been monitoring the accounts involved from the onset, and to date there has been no indication of fraudulent activity."

The information is personal cardholder

information — names, Social Security numbers, addresses and account numbers -- on magnetic tape. The loss occurred in late December. GSA officials notified DOD on Jan. 19. Ms. McKay said the delay was necessary to protect the integrity of the investigation.

"The bank is in the process of notifying cardholders of the situation," she said. "They will be given a special customer service number that has been set up by the bank specifically for this purpose. If (cardholders) have any questions, they can contact the bank. If they would like, they may request that the bank cancel the card and reissue a card to them."

Ms. McKay said that consumers should always keep an eye on any credit accounts they have.

"It's always prudent for any cardholder to monitor their monthly statements (and) dispute any charges they may question, and also it's important for all of us to get a credit report at least once a year and look at the content of that report," she said.

Bank of America has set up a hotline for those affected. The number is (800) 493-8444. Cardholders who notice irregularities in their accounts should call the Bank of America at the number printed on the back of their cards, Ms. McKay said.

"If you are an affected cardholder, you may contact Bank of America for information on obtaining a free credit report," she said. (*Air Force News Service*)

RESCON CORNER

DUIs

Week	0
28 days	1

RESCON Alpha

Congratulations to Team Aviano for going another week without a drunk driving incident. We are on our way to 31-days and a down day, as well as going back to Rescon Normal.

As a reminder, please make plans before heading out. Use your Wingman or Airman Against Drunk Driving. Have a designated driver. There is no excuse to drunk driving.

Marriage information: The Aviano Family Support Center assists people with filing paperwork and arranging appointments. Call Ext. 5407.

Sortie Board

Hours Sorties

31st FW

Goal 115.9 72

Ahead or Behind 83.9 64

510th FS

Goal 46.8 29

Ahead or Behind 84 60

555th FS

Goal 69.1 43

Ahead or Behind -.01 4



Senior Airman Priscilla Robinson

Award winning service

Staff Sgt. Michael E. Dunblazier, 31 Logistics Readiness Squadron, samples the filter separator of a fuel truck. His flight, which won the Golden Drum award recently, goes up for the American Petroleum Institute award next week.

EGLIN, From Page 1

"Any issues or problems with the weapons can be evaluated here. If there are any lessons learned, we send that information down range to the guys using the weapon."

The tactical portion of the exercise made the pilots react to the surface-to-air threat alarms in the cockpit. While they were enroute to dropping a weapon, Combat Hammer would activate the alarm to simulate a surface-to-air missile in the area.

4 Tips for handling the media

Nobody tells the Air Force story better than it's members. To the media, Airmen have the most credibility and the best outlook on the military and their career.

What Airmen say is important, and can reflect on the entire force. Though media inquiries are to be officially conducted through the base public affairs office, that doesn't always happen. Here are a few tips if you are ever approached by the media without proper representation:

- If you have the opportunity, call the public affairs office at Ext. 7555. They can be reached during off-duty hours through the Law Enforcement Desk quickly and easily.

- Stay in your lane — talk about what you know, but ensure you're following the rules of information security.

- Always answer honestly but without saying "no comment." If you don't know the answer to a question, or if the answer is classified or would invade someone's privacy, it's okay to say so.

- Remember, everything you say is "on the record."

Every media encounter is a valuable opportunity that must be taken advantage of to convey who we are, what we do, and the resources we need to do the job our nation expects of us.

The 31st Fighter Wing Public Affairs office offers media training for Airmen. To schedule individual or unit training, call 2nd Lt. Lea Ann Chambers at Ext. 4576.



Senior Airman Nichole Adamowicz

Aviano theater

Staff Sgt. Jason Smith, playing Seymour in the Aviano Community Theater's production of *Little Shop of Horrors*, speaks with the plant Audrey II during a performance here last weekend. There is a show 7 p.m. tonight, 7 p.m. Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday, at the Aviano High School multipurpose room. Cost is \$5 for students and lower-enlisted, \$8 for adults.

News service: Find Air Force articles, photos and more at Air Force Link at <http://www.af.mil>.

Personal Reliability Program

Airmen on PRP must be cautious when it comes to health, medication

By 1st Lt. Nicole M. Dubnicay

31st Fighter Wing Public Affairs Vigileer staff writer

A lot of people don't think twice about taking their favorite cold medicine when they're feeling under the weather.

But for those on the Personal Reliability Program here at Aviano that has to be taken into consideration.

According to the Air Force Personnel Center, the purpose of the PRP is to ensure only those personnel who have demonstrated the highest degree of individual reliability for allegiance, trustworthiness, conduct, behavior, and responsibility of those who perform duties associated with the surety mission.

"It's the administrative program that monitors people," said to Maj. Melanie J. Stewart, 31st Fighter Wing military personnel flight commander. "PRP affects over 400 people on base whose jobs range from security forces, explosive ordinance disposal, munitions, pilots, crew chiefs, communication and command post."

"There is a specific list of medications that PRP members can take," said Staff Sergeant Heather R. Stanfield, NCOIC of base PRP program.

The self medication restriction is used to make sure side effects of some medicines don't get in the way of PRP duties.

The program also monitors drug and alcohol abuse, and mental illness.

"It's a trust program," says weapons maintenance technician Staff Sergeant Wylie Parker, who has been on PRP for the past nine years. "You must report any discrepancies to the

program on yourself or on fellow PRP members."

PRP status personnel must tell their doctors, dentists, MPF, and some family support programs of their status before receiving treatment or services.

The treatments or services can have some effect on their performance of duties.

To be qualified for PRP, personnel records are searched to ensure there is no pre-service drug use, no alcohol related incidents, not an unfavorable EPR, and a thorough review of medical records. Gaining and losing commanders must approve the PRP status before a member is allowed to PCS, which can effect assignments.

"PRP is a great program as long as it's taken seriously," said Sergeant Parker. "As members of the Air Force, we should be looking out for each other. This is just the formalized process that's been around since long before Combat Wingman."

"This is just the formalized process that's been around since long before Combat Wingman."

Staff Sgt.
Heather Standfield

Money class

A First Time Investors class will teach students about investments and savings 2 p.m. Thursday at the Aviano Family Support Center. Those interested need to bring a leave and earnings statement. Call Ext. 5657 for more information.

R&B and jazz

There will be a live R&B and jazz band performance 7 p.m. Sunday at The Spot in the Aviano Community Center. Call Ext. 5479 for more information.

Breastfeeding

New and expectant women are invited to spend the morning with other women and their children at the next La Leche League of Aviano meeting 10 a.m. March 14 in Area One Bldg. 168, the Chapel Education Center. The informal discussion will focus on the arrival of a new baby and its impact on the family, as well as facts and benefits of breastfeeding. Call 0434-755-606 or e-mail LLLAviano@yahoo.com for more information about the group.

Palace Front/Chase

A joint Palace Front/Palace Chase briefing takes place 2 p.m. March 14 in the 31st Mission Support Group conference room in Flightline Bldg. 1403. The Palace Front briefing is mandatory for all reenlistment-eligible Airmen who are electing to separate from the Air Force. For more information, call Ext. 4919.

School board

The next open Aviano School Board meeting is 5 p.m. March 16 at the Aviano Community Center. Three positions on the board must be filled. Those who want to be on the ballot must submit their names by April 1 to timothy.pratt@aviano.af.mil.

New terminal hours

As of Tuesday, the Aviano Passenger Terminal's hours changed to 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mondays through Fridays and 8 a.m. to noon weekends. Early check-in for the Patriot



Airman 1st Class Desiree Hayden

Sure, the rules of the road are obvious when driving. Yet, a number of Americans are being ticketed for parking violations off base. It's important to know the local laws.

Parking tickets in Roveredo can be avoided

The Municipal Police of Roveredo in Piano, along with the 31st Security Forces Squadron, have noticed a number of Americans receiving parking violations for situations that can be avoided. The following are common occurrences, along with the fines they bring about:

- Vehicles parked on the left side of the street will be ticketed, unless it's a one-way street. Those who do may be fined between 35 to 143 Euro. The vehicle could be towed if it represents a potential danger or an obstacle to the traffic-flow.
- Vehicles parked in road lanes will get a ticket, and be fined between 35 to 143 Euro. Such an example is people parking in the driving lane in Ovrio's parking lot.
- Those who park with an indication of "arrival time" on a parking disk may be fined between 35 and 143 Euro.
- Vehicles parked, even partially, on the sidewalk will be ticketed and the drivers will be fined between 71 and 286 Euro. The vehicle is also to be towed. (31st Security Forces Squadron)

Express will be 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. the day prior to the mission. Call Ext. 7680 for more information.

Safety announcement

A small, improvised device exploded in Treviso Jan. 26 when a child kicked a toy from a hollow chocolate egg candy. No one was hurt, but it is likely the work of the Italian Unabomber. While he does not appear to be targeting Americans, the 31st Fighter Wing Intelligence Antiterrorism force protection unit recommends people refrain from picking up or touching even innocent-looking objects in public places. Be cautious when purchasing Italian candy designed for children. Report any suspicious packages or behavior to the Aviano Law Enforcement Desk at Ext. 7200.

Alcoholics Anonymous

Aviano Alcoholics Anonymous meets 6 p.m. Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays in Area One Bldg. 168 behind the child development center. For more information about

AA, or alcohol abuse, call Ext. 5321.

Deployment briefing

Those deploying soon can attend a pre-deployment briefing 9 a.m. Wednesdays except for holidays, down days and base exercises at the Aviano Family Support Center. Call Ext. 5407 to sign up.

Oil change

Spouses of service-members deployed more than 30 days can receive a free oil change for the primary vehicle. Call Ext. 5407 for more information.

Safe Highway

Aviano drivers can use the Safe Highway program to report fellow Americans who drive in an unsafe manner by visiting the Aviano Intranet Safe Highway link. The program was created to assist in the reduction of both minor and major traffic accidents here. Reports must be as specific as possible, to include color, make and model of a vehicle, driver and passenger

descriptions, date, location and time of the incident.

Marriage information

The Aviano Family Support Center assists people with filing their marriage paperwork and arranging downtown appointments. Call Ext. 5407 for more information.

TDY scheduling

Airmen can schedule official travel as soon as they have valid TDY dates. People do not need orders to call the Aviano Traffic Management Office to begin the scheduling process. For more information, call TMO at Ext. 5646.

Lost and found

The 31st Security Forces Squadron Investigations Section is the base point of contact for lost and found property. Found property can be turned in to the Law Enforcement desk in Bldg. 1019 on the Flightline. Inquiries about lost property should be directed to the agency where the property was lost before calling Ext. 5401 or 0434-66-5401.

Personal effects

Any person or persons having claims for or against the estate of 2nd Lt. Donyal V. Brooks should contact Summary Court Officer, Maj. Rod A. Cameron at Ext. 7567.

GTC online payments

Because of an apparent scam, ensure Government Travel card payments are sent to the Bank of America on www.myeasy.com and not www.myeasypay.com.

Survivor benefit plan

Enrolling in the Survivor Benefit Plan prior to retiring will ensure families have guaranteed income after a servicemember's death. Additional details are available by calling Aviano's SBP counselor, Denise Larmer, at Ext. 4699.

Wingman Wednesdays

Wingmen with their cards can receive the following benefits Wednesdays around the base:

- Bowling for the price of one and free shoes at the Aviano Bowling Center
- Free golf cart at the Aviano Golf Course
- 25 cent wings at the La Bella Vista Club
- Wingmen workout 4 to 5 p.m. at the Dragon Fitness Center
- Two for one price on ski and snowboard equipment at Outdoor Recreation
- Five percent off any day tour signed for on Wednesdays.

Class registration

Term 4 registration for the University of Maryland University College starts March 14 for active duty and March 16 for civilians. Term 4 Distance Education registration is currently ongoing. Call Ext. 5365 or visit www.ed.umuc.edu for more information.

Birth certificates

The Sacile City Hall has distributed the complimentary Italian nonofficial, memento

birth certificates for all births up to January 2005. Due to the size of the documents, they cannot be mailed. Families can pick them up at the Sacile hospital, second floor. The ward is open 24 hours, 7 days a week.

Airman's Attic

The Aviano Airman's Attic will open to all U.S. uniformed ID cardholders and their dependents from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, marking the beginning of this new quarterly event. This change does not affect the current operations of the Airman's Attic. The Airman's Attic remains open to E-5 and below and their dependents on Wednesdays from 6-8 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Those interested in volunteering at the attic may sign up on the Aviano Top Three web page at https://avo-intranet/topthree/programs/Airmans_Attic.html.

Bible studies

Several weekly bible studies are offered at the Aviano Chapel.

Gospel Service's Children Choir and Bible Studies meet 5 to 7 p.m. Tuesdays.

Traditional Service's Fellowship Dinner and Bible

Studies takes place Wednesdays 5 to 7 p.m.

Protestant Men of the Chapel meet 11:30 to 12:30 a.m. Tuesdays at The Refuge.

Protestant Women of the Chapel meet 9:30 a.m. to noon Wednesdays in Area One Bldg. 168.

Catholic Women of the Chapel meet 9:30 to 11 a.m. the first Tuesday each month at the chapel.

Marriage Information

The Aviano Family Support Center assists people with filing their marriage paperwork and arranging downtown appointments. Call Ext. 5407 for more information.

Women's history month

• Women from Team Aviano will read a story of women's accomplishments 9 a.m. Thursdays at the Aviano Elementary School, as well as 9 a.m. March 24.

• A fun run takes place 11:30 a.m. March 15 at the Aviano Dragon Fitness Center.

• A women's history panel meets 3:30 p.m. March 17 at the La Bella Vista.

• A luncheon will be held 11:30 a.m. March 30 at the La Bella Vista. Call Master Sgt. Vatemala Ivy at Ext. 8064 for more information.

Post office news

• Members of Team Aviano should notify the Aviano Post Office should there be a change in family status. If a person gets married, divorced or have a family member receiving mail under a different last name, he or she needs to fill out an Air Force Form 624. If the post office receives an improperly-addressed item and can not locate the person, the item will be returned to the sender as "Addressee Unknown."

• The U.S. Postal Service recommends people use Courier New 12-point typeface (or font) for addressing letters. Courier New 12-point - in all capital letters - is the font automated mail processing equipment reads best. Do not use cursive, decorative or script-like fonts, and do not include any punctuation characters in the address. The only exception is the hyphen in the ZIP + 4 code. Mail that is rejected by the automatic mail processing equipment is processed more slowly by hand.

Vigileer information

People can send information for publication to vigileer@aviano.af.mil no later than close of business Thursdays the week prior to desired date of publication.

Trash pickup changes in Fontanafredda

An English-language meeting takes place 8:30 p.m. Thursday at Casa Anselmi, Viale Grigoletti, 11, in Fontanafredda.

The meeting will discuss how the Community of Fontanafredda (Vigonovo, Ceolini, Villadolt, Ranzano, Camolli, Casut, Ronche, Romano) has changed contractors for its trash pickup services, and as a result, the services to residents are changing.

A contractor will now provide residents with new containers for their garbage and recyclables.

These containers will be bar-coded so that the garbage from a particular house can be tracked. Eventually, they plan to bill residents based on the amount of refuse they generate.

In order to get new containers, residents will have to fill out an application form and

bring it to the information meeting or to a pickup location. The pickup location and date is March 18 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. in the parking area of the built-to-lease housing in Villadolt.

This is located on Via Leopardi. Contractor representatives, along with 31st Civil Engineer Squadron representatives, will be present.

The containers will fit into all but the smallest cars.

The application forms are available at the Aviano Housing Office, or can be downloaded from 31 CES/CEV INTRANET page: <https://avo-intranet/CivilEngineering/recycling/comuni>. If residents don't get their new containers, they won't get their trash picked up.

Those with questions can call Ext. 5394. (31st Civil Engineer Squadron)

Hoffman's Helpers

High school class focuses on community outreach

By Au Bree Mariz
Vigileer student staff writer

It's hard enough to get teenagers to do their chores or homework, much less getting teens involved with cleaning up their community and working to benefit the world around them.

After moving to Aviano last year from Abilene, Texas, Terry Hoffman has already made a big difference with his new classes at Aviano High School. Mr. Hoffman has inspired and encouraged his students to help more within the community, such as picking up trash and caring for the base's appearance.

"He (Hoffman) makes you realize that you are helping others, it makes you think twice before dropping trash," said freshman Elle Ramos. "Since he has been here he has made me feel comfortable and he lets us decide what we want to do as a group. He allows us to make our own decisions."

Mr. Hoffman's third period class was stunned by the Tsunami disaster, so they raised more than \$800 dollars for the relief fund. Students carried buckets around school and set up a table in the front lobby during lunch to collect donations. The students themselves were able to do all the fundraising on their own.

"It allows the kids to feel like they have more control over their education," said Mr. Hoffman. "Then they are more willing to learn. They have a more open mind and heart to be involved."

Then wanting to encourage more students, Mr. Hoffman turned to his fourth period class. They came up with the idea of cleaning up their community. Each Wednesday, Mr. Hoffman and his class walk around Area One and pick up trash.



Au Bree Mariz

Students of Terry Hoffman's fourth period class walk around Area One to gather trash Wednesdays. "We implemented our plan and we are keeping it up to benefit the community," said Anna Schrader, Aviano High School freshman.

"It makes me feel like I am doing something more than just talking about it," Freshman Anna Schrader said. "We (the class) implemented our plan and we are keeping it up to benefit our community." Schrader is only one of many who has benefited from Mr. Hoffman's new tactics of teaching.

Mr. Hoffman says he has no unique tactics with his teaching, and just follows DODDs standards for the world region course of . As a teacher, he has his students follow the advice to "think globally and act locally."

"When kids do something like this the kids are the ones who need the recognition when they do great things," said Mr. Hoffman. He added that students are more mature than they think; they are taking the world into their own hands and making a difference.

"If you know any of the kids who are in the class, tell them that they are doing a good job and to keep it up," he said.

"When kids do something like this [think globally and act locally] the kids are the ones who need the recognition when they do great things."

- Terry Hoffman



Doug McEnery was selected principal of the year.

Aviano principal named best in Europe and Mediterranean

Aviano High School Principal Doug McEnery was recently selected as Principal of the Year for Department of Defense Dependent Schools Europe as well as the Mediterranean district.

This is the second consecutive honor that has been bestowed upon Aviano High School this year, the first being awarded to Assistant Principal Susan Page who received the award of Assistant Principal of DoDEA.

As a former English teacher, counselor and vice principal, who has worked in four countries and one state, Mr. McEnery has been a principal for nine years, including a term at Yakota Air Base, Japan.

Now that Mr. McEnery has received the award, he will most likely give a speech at a principals' conference in Wiesbaden, Germany as well as attend a national or professional conference of his choice.

Mr. McEnery will be further considered for the running of DoDEA Principal of the Year, competing against the winners of the Pacific and DDESS principals of the year.

He plans to continue in the field of education and remain at AHS for at least another year. He will also continue teaching the College Preparation class. (Aviano High School news release compiled by Evin Page and Cheri McNeely)

Fly Bys

Vacation location

Aviano travelers can make an appointment with an Information, Tickets and Travel representative to design their next vacation. Call Ext. 5072 for more information.

Travel Web site

Americans with travel plans should visit <http://travel.state.gov> to get the latest travel advisories in Europe. Maintained by the U.S. Department of State, the Web site offers a list of places suspected of anti-American activity, as well as other information for travelers. Call the 31st Fighter Wing Manpower Office at Ext. 7308 with questions about the site or other antiterrorism force protection measures.

Open-air markets

Local Italian villages hold open-air markets one day each week. The following schedule identifies the market day for area villages: Monday - Maniago, Azzano Decimo, Vittorio Veneto, Lignano; Tuesday - Aviano, Casarsa, Codroipo, San Quirino; Wednesday - Pordenone, Budoia, Cordignano, Oderzo, Latisana; Thursday - Rovereto, Fontanafredda, Fiume Veneto, Sacile, Montereale, Portogruaro; Friday - Cordenons, Porcia, San Vito al Tagliamento, Conegliano; Saturday - Pordenone, Spilimbergo, Caorle, Treviso; Sunday - Udine.

ITT bus stop

All tours and trips depart from the Aviano Community Center bus stop in Area One. Actual departure times are specified on the tour receipts. To help ensure a prompt departure, arrive 15 to 20 minutes early for scheduled trips because the bus driver cannot wait. The community center is open from 30 minutes up to one hour prior to departure for restroom facility use.



Courtesy photo

Name this vacation location

This steel monument, consisting of nine spheres, represents an iron crystal magnified 165 billion times. It was built for the World's Fair in 1958. Architect André Waterkeyn designed the monument which was originally meant to stay only six months. The structure has a total height of 103 meters. The spheres, which have a diameter of 18 meters, are connected by escalators. Three of the upper spheres have no vertical support, and for safety reasons, are not open to the public. Be the sixth person to send in the attraction's name and location (to include the city) to vigileer@aviano.af.mil, and win a prize! Congratulations to Tech. Sgt. Angela Palazzo of the 31st Security Forces Squadron for correctly identifying last week's "Vacation Location" as the Black Forest in Germany.

Trip planners: For a complete itinerary call the Information, Tickets and Travel at Ext. 5072 or e-mail ITT@31svs-aviano.com



Courtesy photo

Naples, Italy offers visitors a wealth of architecture and art treasures.

ITT: Information, Tickets and Travel

Upcoming tours from the Information, Tickets and Travel office include:

- March 12 - Wine tasting in Emilia Romagna
- March 12 - Guided Florence
- March 19 - Gardaland season's grand opening
- March 19 - Guided San Marino
- March 22 - Guided Venice

People may sign up now with only a 50-percent deposit for a tour.

The ITT escort will ensure the

group arrives and departs from the destination as scheduled.

Please note weather conditions and dress accordingly for the trip. The office also recommends wearing comfortable shoes because almost all tours involve walking.

When traveling to any city in Europe, the threat of robbery is always present. For this reason, leave any valuables that are not a necessity at home.

The escort will provide general information about the area, as well. For more information about ITT tours, call Ext. 5072 or 5026.

Dodgeball descends on Aviano Airmen



Photos by Senior Airman Tony Plyler



The 31st Security Forces' Centurion Team copped top honors during Team Aviano's first Dodgeball Tournament here Saturday.

Aviano's Top Three Association and the Dragon Fitness Center combined forces to chair the Project Cheer Event as more than 30 teams vied for the title.

Despite some team forfeits, participants and spectators filled both gyms to see how the playoff brackets panned out.

Games had a 10-minute time limit and included a one-minute "sudden death" period if regulation-timed play ended in a tie.

Each game began with the dodgeballs placed along the center line – three on one side of the center hash and three on the other. At the signal, teams rushed to their designated side to retrieve the dodgeballs and raced back across to their side to start each game. (*31st Fighter Wing Public Affairs report*)

March Madness: The March Madness Half Marathon run is March 19 at 10 a.m. call Ext. 7459.



Airman 1st Class Edith Sakura

Face off

Mike Gloss, of the 48th Component Maintenance Squadron at Royal Air Force Lakenheath, England, and Brian Beales, of the 48th Operations Group, attack the puck in Garmish, Germany Feb. 20. The 3rd Air Force Warbirds placed second at the U.S. Air Forces in Europe hockey competition.

Fly Bys

Best ball tournament

The Two-Person Best Ball Tournament starts Saturday at the Alpine Golf Course. For more information, call Ext. 7386.

Sports officials needed

The Aviano Sports Officials Association is looking for referees for the upcoming flag football and softball season. The association is also looking for softball scorekeepers. For more information, call Gregory Smith at Ext. 4978.

Winter sports

Snow Rafting, Taxi-Bob and other winter activities are available to Team Aviano. For information on individual and group trips and lessons, call Outdoor Recreation at Ext. 8623.

Batting cages

The 31st Services Squadron plans to re-open the batting cages in mid-March. Team Aviano is invited to make reservations for birthday parties, Aviano Youth Program and squadron teams. Reservations may be made for any time, with advanced notice. For more information, call Ext. 7459.

Volleyball season

Intramural volleyball starts March 14. For more information, call Ext. 7459.

Dodgeball Tournament

The Project Cheer Dodgeball Tournament is March 19 in the Dragon Fitness Center. For more information, call Ext. 7459.

March Madness sale

Marlyn's March Madness sale is going on at Outdoor Rec. Receive 15 percent off all ski and snowboard equipment rental all March. For more information, call Ext. 8623.

Unity golf tourney

The American-Italian Unity Golf Tournament is 8 a.m., April 5 at the Alpine Golf Course, for more information or to sign up, call Ext. 5211.

Club hopping with a mission

Sergeant on town patrol seeks drunk drivers

By Staff Sgt. Jerome Baysmore
31st Fighter Wing Public Affairs

It was 12:30 a.m. I'd like to begin with, "It was a dark and stormy night," but it wasn't. Instead, it was very early in the morning, and in short, it was just cold.

I had volunteered for Town Patrol because they needed another person, and I openly admit that I was a little curious to find out what the job was like. Besides, the Airmen Against Drunk Driving slot I wanted was already taken.

Anyway, I made my way to the security forces law enforcement desk and met up with the other volunteers. We talked awhile, went over the volunteer briefing, history log and chuckled together at a few of the incidents that were logged in the book. It was going to be a long weekend, and we were tagged with the first shift.

As we huddled up to head out the door, no one could find the vehicle keys and precious time was slipping. Based on some of the past entries, the people needed us, and we were stuck on base.

The desk sergeant started making frantic calls to track down the vehicle keys, and I was running out of humorous stories. An hour later, he had the answer – someone else had the keys.

For us, it was on to plan B. We could either use one of our POVs or go to vehicle operations to request another vehicle.

Time was ticking, and we went forward with the vehicle ops plan. After a little more coordination, we got another vehicle, and we were on our way. We had some time to make up, so we hit the road.

We quickly strolled into our first club and casually made our rounds. People were gathered here and there smiling, laughing and talking. We passed out a few AADD cards and asked the, "Do you have a plan," question. To our surprise, they did – even at 2:30 a.m.

We stopped in the second club, and I was amazed at how many people were in this club. There was barely any room to breathe, move or dance, but the people were having a ball. I got lost in the crowd and slowly made my way to the other

side. I talked to a few of the patrons, and I know somebody groped me while I was making it to the other side. Despite me taking one for the team, every one had a plan there too. We were 0-2.

We stopped in the last club because it was nearing the end of our shift, and we wanted to squeeze in time to swing by the AADD office as well.

We thought it was going to be a little interesting here because they were closing shop, and I overheard someone mutter, "Looks like town patrol's here."

We made our rounds, passed out a few cards, but this time when I asked if everyone had a plan, the call came for me to spring into action.

I was motioned over to help break up a discussion that was unfolding in the corner. In short and from what I remember, two gentleman cordially introduced themselves and asked the questions that if I were hungry, would I choose to: A, heat up a Tony's Microwave Pizza, or would I, B, take the time to cook a Tombstone Pizza in the oven.

I answered with, "It depends on how hungry I am at that moment." We shared a few more laughs before the team headed for the door.

We stopped by the AADD office and asked how the shift was going. Well, the phone was ringing, the drivers were picking up people and the dispatcher was doing well. We were 0-4.

At that moment, I had to admit that I kind of felt like The Grinch from *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*. I was at the part where he had taken all the toys, and he was waiting at the top of the hill listening for the Whos down in Whoville complain and cry that they had no toys that morning. Instead, they celebrated anyway. They didn't need the toys just like the people that morning didn't need us.

We shot back over to the LE desk, but we weren't disheartened. There was nothing for us to do because the Wingman program was working, AADD was running a tight ship and people were taking care of each other. And most of all, we had a good time.

Kudos: Recognizing those who serve

Congratulations to the following Aviano Airmen for their recent 31st Fighter Wing awards: • **Senior Airman Rebecca Baker**, 31st Maintenance Squadron, Airman of the Year • **Staff Sgt. Tina Jones**, 31st Operations Support Squadron, NCO of the Year • **Master Sgt. Kevin Wirhouski**, 31st MXS, Senior NCO of the Year • **Master Sgt. Eric Milliner**, 31st Maintenance Operations Squadron, First Sergeant of the Year • **Capt. Kevin Osborne**, 31st Civil Engineering Squadron, CGO of the Year • **Senior Airman Paul Stout**, 31st MXS, Honor Guard Member of the Year • **Attilio Pegolo**, 31st MXS, Category I Civilian of the Year • **Robert Newman**, 31st MXS, Category II Civilian of the Year • **Alyson Jackson-Hill**, 31st Aircraft Maintenance Squadron and American Red Cross, Technical Volunteer of the Year • **Gary Jenkins**, Base Chapel and The Refuge, Non-Technical Volunteer of the Year • **Tech. Sgt. Bruce Bond**, 31st CES and Youth Sports, Recreational Volunteer of the Year



Cornerstone

An indispensable and fundamental basis

The **Cornerstone Page** is devoted to those who support: junior enlisted, NCOs, CGOs and spouses. It's to share advice, ideas and opinions dealing with life in the Air Force and Aviano. It's also a forum to recognize those around us. The **Cornerstone Page** will also offer Air Force trivia and facts.

Submission info

We want to hear from you. Flex your writing talents and share your thoughts with us and the community. To submit:

Commentaries:

Writers can send commentaries to vigileer@aviano.af.mil. Commentaries must be 500 to 700 words.

Topics must be applicable to the Air Force, Aviano and appeal to the general public. For questions or concerns, call the Vigileer at Ext. 7344.

Kudos: Aviano members can send kudos to Vigileer @aviano.af.mil with the subject line "Kudos."

Kudos can be submitted for appreciation, retirements, awards, good service, promotions and graduations. For questions or concerns, call the Vigileer at Ext. 7344.

Deadline: The deadline for submitting information is close of business Thursday one week prior to publication. Faxed articles will not be accepted by the staff. The public affairs office is in Bldg. 1360, Room 19.